

Dear Sir/Madam:

As an independent Singer/Songwriter and Solo Artist, I am very concerned about the effects of radio consolidation. Since the ownership caps were lessened in 1996, I have witnessed a sad decline in the airplay of local and indie artists.

To relate a personal experience: Even though I have been voted "Best of Baltimore" (City Paper) and received numerous additional awards, it is nearly impossible for me to get airplay in my hometown of Baltimore on a commercial station. (perhaps one spin a season on the off-peak half-hour "local show")

Instead having a Music Director for each station, music selection is now commonly dictated by the radio conglomerate's corporate offices. And since the only way to get to these decision makers is to hire a Radio Promoter (really Payola in thin disguise), an indie artist like myself can't afford these steep costs to get on the radio.

I hope the FCC will maintain the caps currently in place, and in fact I wish it were possible to revert back to the old caps pre-1996. Thanks for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,  
Angela Taylor

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Angela Taylor - alternapop singer-songwriter  
Skinny Girl Records

2001 "Best of Baltimore" Solo Music Artist - City Paper Weekly  
2001 "Best Female Vocalist" - Music Monthly Reader's Poll  
2001 "Best Regional Album" - Music Monthly Editor, Susie Mudd  
Lilith Fair Talent Search Finalist  
IMX Discovery Contest Finalist  
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